

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A vehicle-related services system comprising:

at least one sensor ~~on-board~~ on board a vehicle and automatically sensing ~~at least one of the time during which said vehicle is being operated and where said vehicle is located when it is being operated;~~

at least one communicator ~~on-board~~ on board said vehicle providing an output indicating ~~at least one of the time during which said vehicle is being operated and where said vehicle is located when it is being operated;~~ and

at least one data processor receiving a communication from said at least one communicator, indicating ~~at least one of the time during which said vehicle is being operated and where said vehicle is located when it is being operated~~ and providing a billing data output in respect of a vehicle-related service which is dependent ~~only on at least one of the time during which said vehicle is being operated and where said vehicle is located when it is being operated~~ is not dependent on any other input received from a vehicle-mounted sensor.

24. (Currently Amended) A vehicle-related services system comprising:

~~at least one~~ sensor ~~on-board~~ on board a vehicle and automatically sensing ~~only at least one of the time during which said vehicle is being operated and where said vehicle is located when it is being operated;~~

at least one communicator ~~on-board~~ on board said vehicle providing an output indicating ~~at least one of the time during which said vehicle is being operated and where said vehicle is located when it is being operated;~~ and

at least one data processor receiving a communication from said at least one communicator, indicating ~~at least one of the time during which said vehicle is being operated and where said vehicle is located when it is being operated~~ and providing a billing data output in respect of a vehicle-related service which is dependent on ~~at least~~

~~one of the time during which said vehicle is being operated and where said vehicle is located when it is being operated.~~

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 23 and also comprising at least one intermediate storage and communication unit operative to receive said output from said communicator ~~wherein said communicator communicates with an intermediate storage and communication unit only~~ when a vehicle in which said communicator is located is at one of a plurality of predetermined locations, said at least one intermediate storage and communication unit being operative to retransmit said output to said data processor.

27. (Original) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 26 and wherein said intermediate storage and communication unit is located at a vehicle fueling station.

28-42. (Cancelled)

43. (Currently Amended) A vehicle-related ~~fee payment~~ services system according to claim 42 23 and wherein said communicator communicates with said at least one data processor at least partially not in real time.

44. (Currently Amended) A vehicle-related ~~fee payment~~ services system according to claim 42 24 and also comprising at least one intermediate storage and communication unit operative to receive said output from said communicator ~~wherein said communicator communicates with an intermediate storage and communication unit only~~ when a vehicle in which said communicator is located is at one of a plurality of predetermined locations, said at least one intermediate storage and communication unit being operative to retransmit said output to said data processor.

45. (Currently Amended) A vehicle-related ~~fee-payment~~ services system according to claim 44 and wherein said intermediate storage and communication unit is located at a vehicle fueling station.

46-55. (Cancelled)

56. (Currently Amended) A vehicle-related services method comprising:

automatically sensing ~~at least one of~~ the time during which said ~~a~~ vehicle is being operated ~~and where said vehicle is located when it is being operated;~~

communicating an output indicating ~~at least one of~~ the time during which said vehicle is being operated ~~and where said vehicle is located when it is being operated;~~ and

receiving a communication indicating ~~at least one of~~ the time during which said vehicle is being operated ~~and where said vehicle is located when it is being operated~~ and providing ~~a~~ an insurancee billing data output in respect of vehicle insurance services which is dependent ~~only on~~ at least one of the time during which said vehicle is being operated ~~and where said vehicle is located when it is being operated~~ is not dependent on any other input automatically sensed by a vehicle-mounted sensor.

57. (Original) A vehicle-related services method according to claim 56 and wherein said communicating takes place only when a vehicle is at one of a plurality of predetermined locations.

58. (Currently Amended) A vehicle-related services method according to claim 56 and wherein said billing data comprises vehicle insurance billing data ~~wherein the only automatically sensed variables which are considered in said billing data are duration of vehicle operation and time of day or night of vehicle operation.~~

59-63. (Cancelled)

64. (New) A vehicle-related services system comprising:

at least one sensor on board a vehicle and automatically sensing the time during which said vehicle is being operated;

a communicator on board said vehicle providing an output indicating only the time during which said vehicle is being operated; and

at least one data processor receiving a communication from said communicator, indicating the time during which said vehicle is being operated and providing a billing data output in respect of a vehicle-related service which is dependent on the time during which said vehicle is being operated.

65. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 23 and wherein said time during which said vehicle is being operated comprises at least one of:

the time duration when the vehicle is being operated; and
the time of day or night when the vehicle is being operated.

66. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 24 and wherein said time during which said vehicle is being operated comprises at least one of:

the time duration when the vehicle is being operated; and
the time of day or night when the vehicle is being operated.

67. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 64 and wherein said time during which said vehicle is being operated comprises at least one of:

the time duration when the vehicle is being operated; and
the time of day or night when the vehicle is being operated.

68. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 64 and also comprising at least one intermediate storage and communication unit operative to receive said output from said communicator when a vehicle in which said communicator is located is at one of a plurality of predetermined locations, said at least one intermediate storage and communication unit being operative to retransmit said output to said data processor.

69. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 68 and wherein said intermediate storage and communication unit is located at a vehicle fueling station.

70. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 26 and wherein at least one of said at least one intermediate storage and communication units is operative to receive said output data from a plurality of said communicators on board a corresponding plurality of said vehicles and to communicate said output in at least one composite message to said data processor.

71. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 44 and wherein at least one of said at least one intermediate storage and communication units is operative to receive said output data from a plurality of said communicators on board a corresponding plurality of said vehicles and to communicate said output in at least one composite message to said data processor.

72. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 68 and wherein at least one of said at least one intermediate storage and communication units is operative to receive said output data from a plurality of said communicators on board a corresponding plurality of said vehicles and to communicate said output in at least one composite message to said data processor.

73. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 24 and wherein said sensor is not connected to an electrical system of said vehicle.

74. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 23 and wherein said at least one sensor is not connected to an electrical system of said vehicle.

75. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 64 and wherein said at least one sensor is not connected to an electrical system of said vehicle.

76. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 23 and wherein said at least one data processor comprises a vehicle fee payment data processor.

77. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 24 and wherein said at least one data processor comprises a vehicle fee payment data processor.

78. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 64 and wherein said at least one data processor comprises a vehicle fee payment data processor.

79. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 23 and wherein said at least one data processor comprises a vehicle insurance billing data processor.

80. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 24 and wherein said at least one data processor comprises a vehicle insurance billing data processor.

81. (New) A vehicle-related services system according to claim 64 and wherein said at least one data processor comprises a vehicle insurance billing data processor.

82. (New) A vehicle-related services method comprising:
automatically sensing only the time during which said vehicle is being operated;
communicating an output indicating the time during which said vehicle is being operated; and
receiving a communication indicating the time during which said vehicle is being operated and providing a billing data output in respect of vehicle services which is dependent on the time during which said vehicle is being operated.

83. (New) A vehicle-related services method comprising:
automatically sensing the time during which said vehicle is being operated;
communicating an output only indicating the time during which said vehicle is being operated; and

receiving a communication indicating the time during which said vehicle is being operated and providing a billing data output in respect of a vehicle service which is dependent on the time during which said vehicle is being operated.

84. (New) A vehicle-related services method according to claim 56 and wherein said time during which said vehicle is being operated comprises at least one of:

the time duration when the vehicle is being operated; and
the time of day or night when the vehicle is being operated.

85. (New) A vehicle-related services method according to claim 82 and wherein said time during which said vehicle is being operated comprises at least one of:

the time duration when the vehicle is being operated; and
the time of day or night when the vehicle is being operated.

86. (New) A vehicle-related services method according to claim 83 and wherein said time during which said vehicle is being operated comprises at least one of:

the time duration when the vehicle is being operated; and
the time of day or night when the vehicle is being operated.

87. (New) A vehicle-related services method according to claim 82 and wherein said communicating takes place only when a vehicle is at one of a plurality of predetermined locations.

88. (New) A vehicle-related services method according to claim 83 and wherein said communicating takes place only when a vehicle is at one of a plurality of predetermined locations.

89. (New) A vehicle-related services method according to claim 82 and wherein said billing data comprises vehicle fee payment billing data.

90. (New) A vehicle-related services method according to claim 83 and wherein said billing data comprises vehicle fee payment billing data.

91. (New) A vehicle-related services method according to claim 56 and wherein said billing data comprises vehicle fee payment billing data.

92. (New) A vehicle-related services method according to claim 89 and wherein said fee payment billing data comprises vehicle insurance fee billing data.

93. (New) A vehicle-related services method according to claim 90 and wherein said fee payment billing data comprises vehicle insurance fee billing data.